

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method for selling a baby bottle, the method comprising:

selecting a bottle with an infant beverage comprising the group consisting of infant formula and milk, the bottle being sealed to maintain substantial sterility;

warming the bottle in a warming device; and

selling the warmed bottle.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the method comprises selling a bottle which is between 80 and 110 degrees.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the method comprises warming the bottle to between 90 and 100 degrees.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the method comprises selling the bottle while it is still sealed.
5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising removing the seal.

6. A method for dispensing an infant beverage comprising:
 - selecting a bottle having a liquid and a powder for mixing with the liquid;
 - warming the bottle while maintaining the liquid and the powder separate; and
 - selling the bottle.
7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the method comprises mixing the powder and the liquid after warming of the liquid.
8. The method according to claim 6, wherein the method comprises maintaining the liquid in a reservoir portion of the bottle and maintaining the powder in a nipple portion of the bottle prior to mixing.
9. The method according to claim 6, wherein the method comprises maintaining the bottle substantially sterile prior to sale of the bottle.
10. A method of selling infant formula comprising:

selecting a bottle having a seal for keeping a liquid in the bottle sterile;

heating the bottle to a temperature of between 90 and 110 degrees while the bottle is sealed; and

selling the heated, sealed bottle together with a nipple portion.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the method comprises puncturing the seal with the nipple portion.

12. The method according to claim 10, further comprising selling the bottle with infant formula.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the formula is disposed in the nipple portion.

14. A bottle for selling infant formula, the bottle comprising:

a reservoir portion filled with an infant beverage;

a nipple portion connected to the reservoir portion, the nipple portion being configured for providing access to the infant beverage in the reservoir portion; and

a sealing member disposed about the nipple portion for preventing access to the infant beverage either through nipple portion or by removing the nipple portion from the reservoir portion without breaking the sealing member.

15. A bottle comprising:

a reservoir portion for holding at least a portion of an infant beverage;

a nipple portion attached to the reservoir portion; and

a seal disposed between the nipple portion and the reservoir portion for selectively preventing access to the reservoir portion through the nipple portion.

16. The bottle of claim 15, further comprising a piercing member for opening the sealing member to provide access to the beverage in the reservoir portion.

17. The bottle of claim 16, wherein the nipple portion is compressed or collapsed to open the seal.

18. The bottle of claim 16, wherein the nipple portion is rotated to open the seal.

19. The bottle of claim 16, wherein the nipple portion is slid to open the seal.

20. The bottle according to claim 15, wherein the bottle has a liquid disposed in the reservoir portion and a powder disposed on an opposing side of the seal from the liquid.

21. The bottle according to claim 20, wherein at least a portion of the powder is disposed in the nipple portion.

22. A device for warming a bottle comprising a trough configured for receiving a liquid; a temperature and controls for maintain the liquid at a temperature in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit; and a carrier for holding a bottle in the trough and removing the bottle from the trough after a predetermined amount of time.

23. The device according to claim 22, further comprising two troughs for receiving liquids.

24. The device according to claim 23, wherein the two troughs are maintained at different temperatures.

25. The device according to claim 23, further comprising a timer to time the heating of a bottle in a trough.

26. A device for warming a bottle comprising:
a chamber configured for holding warmed air;
a temperature;
controls for maintaining the temperature in the chamber between 80 and 110 degrees; and
at least one bottle disposed within the chamber.

27. The device according to claim 26, comprising at least two chambers.

28. The device according to claim 27, wherein the two chambers are maintained at different temperatures.

29. The device according to claim 27, further comprising a timer to time the heating of the bottles in the chamber.

30. The device according to claim 29, wherein the timer gives a visual or audible signal when the bottle is finished heating.

31. A method for selling infant formula, comprising:
selecting a bottle that is filled with formula and sealed to assure sterility;
selecting a heating unit with two temperature zones;
placing the bottle in one temperature zone to quickly heat the bottle to approximately 90 to 100 degrees;
placing the bottle in the other temperature zone to maintain the bottle at approximately 90 to 100 degrees; and
selling the bottle while the bottle remains sealed.

32. The method according to claim 31, wherein the heating unit temperature zones are controlled to maintain a constant temperature.

33. The method according to claim 31, wherein the heating unit further comprises a timer to time the quick heating of the bottle to approximately 90-100 degrees.

34. A method for dispensing an infant beverage comprising:

selecting a bottle having a liquid and a powder for mixing with the liquid; and

selling the bottle with the liquid and powder isolated from one another.

35. The method according to claim 34, wherein the method comprises selecting a bottle having a seal and a means for puncturing or shearing the seal.

36. The method according to claim 34, wherein the method comprises dispensing the bottle in a plastic bag.

37. An apparatus for dispensing infant formula, the apparatus comprising;

a bottle having infant formula disposed therein and a nipple attached thereto for dispensing the infant formula, and

a seal for covering the nipple and at least a portion of the bottle.

38. The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the seal comprises a plastic bag in which the bottle and nipple are sealed.

39. A method for dispensing of infant formula, the method comprising:

disposing infant formula in a bottle and placing the bottle in a vending machine;

heating the bottle; and

dispensing the bottle to a customer.

40. The method according to claim 39, wherein the method comprises heating the bottle after the bottle is ordered by a user of the vending machine.